UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/227
17 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 101 (*b*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/54/589)*]

54/227. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 37/248 of 21 December 1982 and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions on the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community,

Commending States members of the Community for demonstrating continued commitment to deeper and more formal arrangements for cooperation among themselves towards regional integration,

Noting the signing of Community protocols on wildlife conservation, law enforcement and health and the establishment of the Association of Southern African Development Community National Chambers of Commerce, as well as the adoption of a declaration on productivity, which are further steps towards enhancing regional cooperation,

Recognizing the strengthening of democratic governance and other positive developments, including the consolidation of peace, the enhancement of democracy and the respect for the rule of law in the region, through the creation of institutions to further regional integration, such as the Parliamentary Forum, the Electoral Forum and the Lawyers Association of the Community,

Reaffirming that the successful implementation of the development programmes of the Community can be achieved only if the Community has adequate resources at its disposal,

Noting that the effects of armed conflict, resulting in the loss of life and the destruction of economic and social infrastructures in southern Africa, demand the continuation and the strengthening of rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes to regenerate the economies of the countries of the region,

Welcoming the Community's efforts to make southern Africa a landmine-free zone,

Noting with grave concern that adverse weather conditions have created a regional cereal deficit in 1999-2000, with a risk of increased poverty, in particular in rural areas,

Recognizing the valuable and effective economic and financial contribution that some organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and the international community have made to complementing national and subregional efforts to advance the process of democratization, rehabilitation and development in southern Africa,

Reiterating that the primary cause of the present situation in Angola is the failure of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, under the leadership of Jonas Savimbi, to comply with its obligations under the Peace Accords,[1] the Lusaka Protocol[2] and the relevant Security Council resolutions,

Expressing its grave concern at the serious deterioration of an already dire humanitarian situation in Angola caused by the current conditions in the country, which is also hampering efforts towards economic rehabilitation and national reconstruction as well as regional development projects,

Expressing its satisfaction over the initiatives to bring peace to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, launched by the Community under the leadership of President F. J. T. Chiluba of Zambia, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and other entities,

Welcoming with satisfaction the signing at Lusaka, on 10 July 1999, of the Ceasefire Agreement[3] by all parties involved in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as a step forward towards a durable peace in that country,

Noting with concern the high prevalence in the region of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, which has far-reaching social and economic consequences,

Reaffirming the recognition of the important role that women play in the development of the region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

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[1] S/22609; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*.

[2] S/1994/1441; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*.

[3] S/1999/815, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*.

[4] A/54/273.

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Southern African Development Community;

3. *Appeals* to the international community and to relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue providing, where appropriate, financial, technical and material assistance to the Community in order to enable it to implement fully its programme of action and to meet the reconstruction and rehabiiitation needs of the region and to advance further the process of regional economic integration;

4. *Calls upon* the States Members of the United Nations and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to explore the possibility of so doing;

5. *Appeals* to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to assist and to support the Community in its efforts against landmines, and calls upon the States members of the Community to continue to strengthen their efforts in this regard;

6. *Also appeals* to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to assist the Community, with the appropriate resources, in implementing the programmes and decisions adopted by various United Nations world conferences, with specific emphasis on the enhancement of the role of women in the development process, and in this regard welcomes the establishment of the Southern African Development Community Women in Business Network, aimed at empowering women through, *inter alia*, facilitating and enhancing their access to credit and to training in business and technical skills;

7. *Appeals* to the international community to support the measures being taken by the Community in addressing human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, including proposals for key future actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;[5]

8. *Appeals* to the international community and to the United Nations system to continue to extend much-needed assistance to those countries of the Community that are engaged in the process of national reconstruction so as to enable them to consolidate democracy and to enhance the implementation of their national development programmes;

9. *Appeals* to the international community to comply with all relevant Security Council resolutions on Angola pertaining to sanctions imposed on the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, which, together with other efforts, would help to bring peace and to facilitate the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Angolan economy;

10. *Urges* the international community to take appropriate action, especially by providing humanitarian assistance, to prevent the suffering of the Angolan people, in particular children, women and the elderly, urges the Angolan authorities to continue to facilitate the assistance and the delivery of such assistance, and urges all other relevant parties to the conflict to do their utmost in this regard;

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[5] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

11. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the United Nations, to continue to contribute to the promotion of peace and stability in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to assist in the rehabilitation and economic reconstruction of that country;

12. *Urges* all parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement[3] to work towards its full implementation and to cooperate in this regard with the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

13. *Urges* the international community to continue to assist those countries receiving refugees in coping with the resulting economic, social, humanitarian and environmental challenges;

14. *Appeals* to the United Nations and the international community to assist in the strengthening of the region's capacity for sustainable water resource management and to respond generously with respect to the drought situation in southern Africa by supporting the region in its drought preparedness and management strategies;

15. *Calls upon* the international community to consider supporting the creation of special economic zones and development corridors in the Community, with the active participation of the private sector, while recognizing the responsibilities and the ongoing efforts of the countries concerned to create the necessary environment, including the appropriate legal and economic framework for such activities;

16. *Also calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the Community to address the consequences, new challenges and opportunities presented to the economies of the region arising from the process of globalization and liberalization;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

87th plenary meeting
22 December 1999